

Calendar No. 357110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 1182****[Report No. 110–159]**

To amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to increase the authorization of appropriations and modify the date on which the authority of the Secretary of the Interior terminates under the Act.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 20, 2007

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 17, 2007

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to increase the authorization of appropriations and modify the date on which the authority of the Secretary of the Interior terminates under the Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Quinebaug and
3 Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor
4 Amendments Act of 2007”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds that—

7 (1) thousands of individuals, hundreds of non-
8 profit organizations, businesses, and local and re-
9 gional organizations, 35 towns, and 2 States have
10 worked to preserve and enhance the significant nat-
11 ural, historic, cultural, and scenic resources of the
12 Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National
13 Heritage Corridor, an area which is commonly
14 known as “The Last Green Valley”;

15 (2) the Green Valley Institute, a partnership
16 between the University of Connecticut and the coop-
17 erative extension system of the University of Massa-
18 chusetts, has significantly improved the information
19 base available to the primarily volunteer municipal
20 officers that are responsible for making land use and
21 natural resource conservation decisions with respect
22 to The Last Green Valley;

23 (3) during the 5 years preceding the date of en-
24 actment of this Act, the Green Valley Institute was
25 recognized with a total of 8 State or national awards
26 for public education;

1 (4) significant historic structures have been
2 identified and restored under the programs carried
3 out in the Heritage Corridor;

4 (5) museums, attractions, landscapes, and busi-
5 nesses in the Heritage Corridor have been assembled
6 into cohesive interpretive projects that tell the sto-
7 ries of The Last Green Valley for residents and
8 tourists;

9 (6) as part of the vision to sustain the tradi-
10 tional land-based economy of the region, the Herit-
11 age Corridor has—

12 (A) developed agritourism and continuing
13 education programs for the region; and

14 (B) collected and analyzed data relating to
15 the vision;

16 (7) recreational tourism has been enhanced by
17 the many trails, greenways, river access, and inter-
18 pretive projects in the Heritage Corridor;

19 (8) each of the 35 municipal governments with-
20 in the Heritage Corridor has signed a voluntary and
21 nonbinding community compact in which govern-
22 ments—

23 (A) accept the goals and objectives of the
24 management plan for the Heritage Corridor;
25 and

1 (B) formalize the commitment of the gov-
 2 ernments to balance conservation and growth
 3 and the collective vision of the governments for
 4 the watershed;

5 (9) during the past 11 years the Heritage Cor-
 6 ridor has consistently leveraged an average of \$19
 7 for every Federal dollar invested in the Heritage
 8 Corridor;

9 (10) the Heritage Corridor has adopted, and is
 10 implementing, a comprehensive plan, entitled “The
 11 Trail to 2015, A Sustainability Plan for The Last
 12 Green Valley”, to become self-sufficient by the year
 13 2015; and

14 (11) reauthorizing the Heritage Corridor would
 15 leverage significant multiyear commitments and en-
 16 sure self-sufficiency by 2015 for the programs and
 17 projects that are fulfilling the mission of the Herit-
 18 age Corridor.

19 **SEC. 3. QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET RIVERS VALLEY NA-**
 20 **TIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR.**

21 (a) **TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.**—Section 106(b)
 22 of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National
 23 Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 461 note; Pub-
 24 lic Law 103–449) is amended by striking “September 30,
 25 2009” and inserting “September 30, 2015”.

1 (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Section
 2 109(a) of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley Na-
 3 tional Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 461 note;
 4 Public Law 103-449) is amended by striking
 5 “\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$15,000,000”.

6 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

7 *This Act may be cited as the “Quinebaug and*
 8 *Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor*
 9 *Amendments Act of 2007”.*

10 **SEC. 2. QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET RIVERS VALLEY NA-**
 11 **TIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR.**

12 (a) **TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.**—Section 106(b) of
 13 *the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Herit-*
 14 *age Corridor Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 461 note; Public Law*
 15 *103-449) is amended by striking “September 30, 2009” and*
 16 *inserting “September 30, 2015”.*

17 (b) **EVALUATION; REPORT.**—Section 106 of the
 18 *Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage*
 19 *Corridor Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 461 note; Public Law 103-*
 20 *449) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

21 “(c) **EVALUATION; REPORT.**—

22 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years before
 23 *the date on which authority for Federal funding ter-*
 24 *minates for the Corridor, the Secretary shall—*

1 “(A) conduct an evaluation of the accom-
2 plishments of the Corridor; and

3 “(B) prepare a report in accordance with
4 paragraph (3).

5 “(2) *EVALUATION.*—An evaluation conducted
6 under paragraph (1)(A) shall—

7 “(A) assess the progress of the management
8 entity with respect to—

9 “(i) accomplishing the purposes of this
10 title for the Corridor; and

11 “(ii) achieving the goals and objectives
12 of the management plan for the Corridor;

13 “(B) analyze the Federal, State, local, and
14 private investments in the Corridor to determine
15 the leverage and impact of the investments; and

16 “(C) review the management structure,
17 partnership relationships, and funding of the
18 Corridor for purposes of identifying the critical
19 components for sustainability of the Corridor.

20 “(3) *REPORT.*—

21 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Based on the evalua-
22 tion conducted under paragraph (1)(A), the Sec-
23 retary shall prepare a report that includes rec-
24 ommendations for the future role of the National

1 *Park Service, if any, with respect to the Cor-*
 2 *ridor.*

3 “(B) *REQUIRED ANALYSIS.*—*If the report*
 4 *prepared under subparagraph (A) recommends*
 5 *that Federal funding for the Corridor be reau-*
 6 *thorized, the report shall include an analysis*
 7 *of—*

8 “(i) *ways in which Federal funding for*
 9 *the Corridor may be reduced or eliminated;*
 10 *and*

11 “(ii) *the appropriate time period nec-*
 12 *essary to achieve the recommended reduc-*
 13 *tion or elimination.*

14 “(C) *SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.*—*On com-*
 15 *pletion of the report, the Secretary shall submit*
 16 *the report to—*

17 “(i) *the Committee on Energy and*
 18 *Natural Resources of the Senate; and*

19 “(ii) *the Committee on Natural Re-*
 20 *sources of the House of Representatives.”.*

21 (c) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*Section*
 22 *109(a) of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley Na-*
 23 *tional Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 461 note;*
 24 *Public Law 103–449) is amended by striking*
 25 *“\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$15,000,000”.*

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